

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Residence at 5789 Landon Store Road Inventory Number: S-514  
Address: 5789 Landon Store Road; Corner of Hudson Corner Road and east side of Landon Store Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no  
City: Marion Zip Code: 21838 County: Somerset  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Marion - Kingston  
Property Owner: George S. and Pauline F. Jackson Tax Account ID Number: 043339  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 71 Tax Map Number: 58  
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland Agency: Maryland Dept. of Budget and Management  
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company  
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell and Stacey Streett Date Prepared: 3/23/2005  
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes  
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

**Architectural Description**

The vacant residence at 5789 Landon Store Road (S-514) is located at the intersection of Hudson Corner Road (Rt. 667) and the east side of Landon Store Road. It was constructed in 1900. The façade of the two-and-one-half-story house faces west toward Landon Store Road. It has an asymmetrical footprint because of a protruding cross gable on the façade. The exterior is clad in white, vinyl siding. One-over-one, double-hung-sash, replacement windows comprise all of the fenestration.

The residence is a typical Folk Victorian-style building with vernacular interpretations of Queen Anne-style architectural elements. The steeply pitched, asymmetrical, complex roof includes a centered, front-facing, cross gable projecting off of the ell wing. Pent roofs span the bottom section of the gables on the façade and south elevation. Gable dormers are located on the façade and the south elevation as well. A two-story, cutaway bay window is prominently featured below the cross gable on the façade.

A one-story, wrap-around porch is featured on the protruding cross-gable portion of the façade. The porch terminates at the south elevation of the building, which also features a two-story cutaway bay window below the gable dormer. The north end of the porch

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MHT Comments:

Andrew Lewis  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

4/7/05  
Date

Jim Kuntz  
Reviewer, National Register Program

4/7/05  
Date

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Residence at 5789 Landon Store Road

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roof features a small pediment, which defines the entrance bay. The front porch is in disrepair, with two-by-four posts supporting the porch overhang in place of the original pillars. Only two of the original pillars are extant on the south end of the porch.

Gray, asphalt shingles clad the roof of the house and the front porch. A pair of interior, brick chimneys punctuates the center of the asymmetrical, cross-gable roofline. Decorative, inverted pendants adorn the corners of the eaves on the façade.

Evergreen hedgerows border along the edge of the east side of Landon Store Road, which is the western portion of the property parcel. A telephone pole and associated overhead lines also run parallel to the hedgerow. Overgrown shrubs and large, deciduous trees are crowded around the perimeter of the property and residence.

### Significance

### Introduction

Marion, located in Somerset County, Maryland, is situated approximately six miles north of Crisfield. Marion is a small crossroads community that was established in the middle of the nineteenth century with the construction of the earliest residences. The town developed gradually throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Buildings more than 50 years of age in the Marion vicinity are generally in fair to poor condition. Many of the buildings in the commercial corridor have been altered, most substantially. The busy, four-lane Crisfield Highway (Route 413) bisects Marion and intrudes substantially on the historic character of the town, most notably on the commercial area.

Residential areas radiate out from the commercial area. The residences located closest to the commercial area are generally located along side streets and are closely spaced. However, moving outward from the commercial area, the residences are located on large parcels of land, many of which are actively cultivated. Primary crops include soybeans and corn. Modern poultry farming enterprises are also present.

The earliest buildings in Marion date to the middle of the nineteenth century. The majority of the buildings more than 50 years of age date from the early years of the twentieth century. However, numerous mobile homes and residences constructed within the last 30 years are located in the area.

The topography of Marion is generally flat with substantial stands of trees and forests as well as fields.

### History of Marion

Marion is located in what was once a thriving agricultural region. Consequently, it grew into one of the larger villages within Somerset County during the second half of the nineteenth century. John C. Horsey donated a portion of his land for the railroad right-of-way, and in exchange he was allowed to name the resulting town after his daughter Marion. The village served the needs of the surrounding agricultural community. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas shows two carpenter shops, two blacksmiths, and two wagon shops in the town. A general store was located in Marion, and several churches were also established there. Approximately ten residences were located in Marion at this time. Later development was focused on areas south and east of the village.

Strawberries were one of the most important crops grown in Marion as well as other parts of Somerset County. An auction to establish the best possible market prices for strawberries was initiated in Marion in 1911. The auction was soon moved to the neighboring town of Princess Anne. Marion's strawberry crop was sent by rail car to urban markets, including Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. By the mid 1920s, many farmers had started to raise broiler chickens, and the long chicken houses

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### MHT Comments:

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Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

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Date

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Reviewer, National Register Program

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Date

became a common site in Marion and surrounding areas. Around the same time, soybeans became a popular crop among farmers. Depression-era government subsidies encouraged their cultivation, and the crop became even more widespread during World War II, when the need for soybean oil increased government incentives. Today, soybeans and corn are the most prominent crops on the landscape.

In 1914, the Bank of Marion was established. The same year, the organization constructed a new bank building in Marion. The simple building was typical of bank buildings constructed in small towns during this era. The establishment served the other merchants and farmers in the town. It is a good example of classically inspired bank architecture, and is part of the Marion Historic District.

By the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century, Marion suffered a period of decline. References generally point to the growth and prominence of Crisfield and Princess Anne as reasons for Marion's cessation of growth. Today, Marion has a high level of unemployment. Many residents commute to jobs in Salisbury.

#### Architectural Resources in Marion

The earliest residences in Marion date from the middle of the nineteenth century. The houses are primarily modest, typical vernacular farmhouses, often two stories in height with narrow facades. All of the earliest houses have been abandoned and many are in danger of collapse.

Vernacular farmhouses continued to be built in Marion into the first quarter of the twentieth century. I-houses were commonly constructed in the early years of the twentieth century. Many have steeply pitched cross gables superimposed onto the traditional I-house form. Farmhouses of this form are common throughout Maryland. Another prevalent form is a two-story folk Victorian form with a projecting, two-story, three-bay form extending from the façade. This form is commonly seen throughout the Chesapeake Bay area, most notably in Talbot and Somerset Counties. In some cases, the families have moved from the original farmhouses into trailer homes located directly next to the older home. Those that continue to function as residences have been substantially altered.

The majority of buildings more than 50 year of age in Marion date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Houses on smaller lots were the residences of those involved with the commercial activities of the town, such as banking. The houses located further from the center of town are generally larger farmhouses. The larger agricultural plots of land that contain these farmhouses generally lack agricultural buildings or outbuildings associated with agricultural practices. In a few cases, farmsteads contain poultry houses of recent construction dates.

Residences on a small segment of Charles Cannon Road are vernacular interpretations of styles and forms more commonly associated with streetcar suburbs of the early twentieth centuries. Some of these include Folk Victorian residences and American Foursquares. These are all on small parcels of land.

The residences which date from the 1930s and 40s are primarily modest cottages, most with enclosed porches. Trailers were placed throughout residential parcels in Marion during the 1960s and 70s. Today, small ranch houses constructed from the 1980s through the present day are prevalent and comprise much of the residential building stock in the vicinity. Other new residences are larger vacation homes along the Big Annemessex River.

Six churches are in the vicinity of Marion. Four are modest frame chapels in the more agrarian portions of the APE. One is a larger brick Gothic Revival church. The Marion Baptist Church is the largest, and at one time perhaps the most impressive building

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in the town. It is a large brick building with characteristics of the Colonial Revival style, including an impressive portico. All are typical examples of sacred architecture found in the Mid-Atlantic.

The commercial architecture of Marion is typical of what is found in small communities throughout Maryland. There are two, small bank buildings and several small shops. The majority of the buildings have been altered, and approximately 35 percent are vacant and abandoned. Two rail-related buildings are in Marion, a freight station and a passenger station. Both buildings have been altered for use as retail space.

#### Determination of Eligibility

The property was evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Register:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or

C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The residence at 5789 Landon Store Road is a typical example of a vernacular farmhouse in Marion. The projecting three-bay extension on the façade is commonly seen on vernacular examples of Victorian-era architecture on the Eastern Shore. The building's integrity has been severely compromised by the installation of incompatible replacement windows and a replacement door. The house has been clad in vinyl siding, and original porch supports have been replaced by unfinished wood two-by-four posts. The residence at 5789 Landon Store Road is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is not associated with significant events that contributed to the history of Marion and is not eligible under Criterion A. No significant people appear to be associated with the property; therefore the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The house is a typical example of a vernacular residence constructed in the early twentieth century. The property has suffered a loss of integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. Consequently, it is not eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

#### Bibliography

Maryland's Historic Somerset. Princess Anne, Maryland: Board of Education, 1969.

Maryland Historical Trust. Maryland Inventory of Historic Property Forms and National Register of Historic Places Forms for Marion and surrounding areas of southern Maryland.

Touart, Paul Baker. Somerset; An Architectural History. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust and Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc., 1990.

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5789 Landon Store Road (S-514)

USGS Quadrangle, Kingston  
Marion, Somerset County, Maryland

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Miles



MIHP # 8-514

Residence at corner of Hudson Corner Rd. and  
Landon Stone Rd  
Somerset County, MD  
Stephanie Foell

August 2004  
MD SHPO

Facade, Northwest corner, taken from south side of  
Hudson Corner Rd.

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